(To Forfait.) I inclose your report on Madagascar; I find it insufficient.

25th. Are you rich, Maret?

(No, general.)

So much the worse for you, a man ought to be independent.

(General, I wish never to be dependent on any one but you.)

Hem! — Not so bad!

Maret is a good fellow, he's no fool; he answered me cleverly.

February 10th, St. Quentin:

I arrived at St. Quentin yesterday, at four in the afternoon. I was on horseback all the morning inspecting the canal. The weather is cold, and there has been much snow. All I have seen of the plans and the preliminary works of the St. Quentin canal appears satisfactory. I went down the stairway into the tunnel. The manufactures of the city, which formerly gave employment to 70,000 workpeople and brought fifteen millions of money into France, have gone down five sixths. The hope of restoring one of our most important and exclusive manufactures, and of giving a livelihood to so many French families, is just the thing to bring cambric into fashion again.